

tion 4811(a) of this title, on the request of a number of persons equal to at least 15 percent of persons who have been producers and importers during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum to determine whether the producers and importers favor the termination or suspension of the order.

(B) The Secretary shall—

(i) suspend or terminate collection of assessments under the order not later than 6 months after the date the Secretary determines that suspension or termination of the order is favored by a majority of the producers and importers voting in the referendum; and

(ii) terminate the order in an orderly manner as soon as practicable after the date of such determination.

(2) Except with respect to a referendum required to be conducted under section 4811 of this title, the Secretary shall not be required by paragraph (1) to conduct more than one referendum under this chapter in a 2-year period.

(c) Termination or suspension not to be considered an order

The termination or suspension of an order, or a provision of an order, shall not be considered an order within the meaning of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1623, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1618.)

§ 4813. Refunds

(a) Demand for refund; persons eligible

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, prior to the approval of the continuation of an order pursuant to the referendum required under section 4811(a) of this title, any person shall have the right to demand and receive from the Board a refund of an assessment collected under section 4809 of this title if such person—

(1) is responsible for paying such assessment; and

(2) does not support the program established under this chapter.

(b) Form and time within which demand to be made

Such demand shall be made in accordance with regulations, on a form, and within a time period prescribed by the Board and approved by the Secretary, but not later than 30 days after the end of the month in which the assessment was paid.

(c) Payment of refund on submission of satisfactory proof

Such refund shall be made not later than 30 days after demand is received therefore¹ on submission of proof satisfactory to the Board that the producer, person, or importer—

(1) paid the assessment for which refund is sought; and

(2) did not collect such assessment from another producer, person, or importer.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1624, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1619.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be “therefor”.

§ 4814. Petition and review

(a)(1) A person subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition—

(A) stating that such order, a provision of such order, or an obligation imposed in connection with such order is not in accordance with law; and

(B) requesting a modification of such order or an exemption from such order.

(2) Such person shall be given an opportunity for a hearing on the petition, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

(3) After such hearing, the Secretary shall make a determination granting or denying such petition.

(b)(1) A district court of the United States in the district in which such person resides or does business shall have jurisdiction to review such determination if a complaint for such purpose is filed not later than 20 days after the date such person receives notice of such determination.

(2) Service of process in such proceeding may be made on the Secretary by delivering a copy of the complaint to the Secretary.

(3) If a court determines that such determination is not in accordance with law, the court shall remand such proceedings to the Secretary with directions to—

(A) make such ruling as the court shall determine to be in accordance with law; or

(B) take such further proceedings as, in the opinion of the court, the law requires.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1625, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1619.)

§ 4815. Enforcement

(a) Jurisdiction of district court; referral of civil actions to Attorney General

(1) A district court of the United States shall have jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain a person from violating an order, rule, or regulation issued under this chapter.

(2) A civil action authorized to be brought under this subsection shall be referred to the Attorney General for appropriate action, except that the Secretary is not required to refer to the Attorney General a violation of this chapter if the Secretary believes that the administration and enforcement of this chapter would be adequately served by providing a suitable written notice or warning to a person who committed such violation or by administrative action under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Penalties for willful violations; issuance of cease-and-desist orders; judicial review of orders; penalty for failure to obey cease-and-desist order

(1)(A) A person who willfully violates an order, rule, or regulation issued by the Secretary under this chapter may be assessed—

(i) a civil penalty by the Secretary of not more than \$1,000 for each such violation; and

(ii) in the case of a willful failure to pay, collect, or remit an assessment as required by an order, an additional penalty equal to the amount of such assessment.

(B) Each such violation shall be a separate offense.

(C) In addition to or in lieu of such civil penalty, the Secretary may issue an order requiring such person to cease and desist from violating such order, rule, or regulation.

(D) No penalty may be assessed or cease-and-desist order issued unless the Secretary gives such person notice and opportunity for a hearing on the record with respect to such violation.

(E) An order issued under this paragraph by the Secretary shall be final and conclusive unless such person files an appeal from such order with the appropriate United States court of appeals not later than 30 days after such person receives notice of such order.

(2)(A) A person against whom an order is issued under paragraph (1) may obtain review of such order in the court of appeals of the United States for the circuit in which such person resides or does business, or in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, by—

(i) filing a notice of appeal in such court not later than 30 days after the date of such order; and

(ii) simultaneously sending a copy of such notice by certified mail to the Secretary.

(B) The Secretary shall file promptly in such court a certified copy of the record on which such violation was found.

(C) A finding of the Secretary shall be set aside only if the finding is found to be unsupported by substantial evidence.

(3)(A) A person who fails to obey a valid cease-and-desist order issued under paragraph (1) by the Secretary, after an opportunity for a hearing, shall be subject to a civil penalty assessed by the Secretary of not more than \$500 for each offense.

(B) Each day during which such failure continues shall be considered a separate violation of such order.

(4)(A) If a person fails to pay a valid civil penalty imposed under this subsection by the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney General for recovery of the amount assessed in an appropriate district court of the United States.

(B) In such action, the validity and appropriateness of the order imposing such civil penalty shall not be subject to review.

(c) Availability of additional remedies

The remedies provided in subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, other remedies that may be available.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, § 1626, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1620.)

§ 4816. Investigations

(a) Purposes

The Secretary may make such investigations as the Secretary considers necessary—

(1) for the effective administration of this chapter; or

(2) to determine whether a person subject to this chapter has engaged, or is about to engage, in an act that constitutes, or will constitute, a violation of this chapter or an order, rule, or regulation issued under this chapter.

(b) Oaths and affirmations; subpoenas

(1) For the purpose of such investigation, the Secretary may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry.

(2) Such attendance of witnesses and the production of such records may be required from any place in the United States.

(c) Judicial enforcement; contempt proceedings; service of process

(1) In the case of contumacy, or refusal to obey a subpoena, by a person, the Secretary may invoke the aid of a court of the United States with jurisdiction over such investigation or proceeding, or where such person resides or does business, in requiring the attendance and testimony of such person and the production of such records.

(2) The court may issue an order requiring such person to appear before the Secretary to produce records or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation.

(3) A failure to obey an order issued under this section by the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

(4) Process in such case may be served in the judicial district in which such person is an inhabitant or wherever such person may be found.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, § 1627, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1621.)

§ 4817. Preemption

(a) Promotion and consumer education; funds from pork producers

This chapter is intended to occupy the field of—

(1) promotion and consumer education involving pork and pork products; and

(2) obtaining funds therefor from pork producers.

(b) Additional or different State regulation prohibited

The regulation of such activity (other than a regulation or requirement relating to a matter of public health or the provision of State or local funds for such activity) that is in addition to or different from this chapter may not be imposed by a State.

(c) Application of section

This section shall apply only during a period beginning on the date of the commencement of the collection of assessments under section 4809 of this title and ending on the date of the termination of the collection of assessments under section 4811(a)(3) or 4811(b)(1)(B)¹ of this title.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, § 1628, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1621.)

§ 4818. Administrative provision

The provisions of this chapter applicable to orders shall be applicable to amendments to orders.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, § 1629, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1621.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be “section 4811(b)(2)(A) or 4812(b)(1)(B)”.